

Amendments to the Specification:

After the title and before the first paragraph please insert the heading

Background Of The Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, lines 1-4, with the following amended paragraph:

The invention relates to a supporting sleeve, ~~said supporting sleeve being~~ that is introducible into a penetration in a component~~[[,]]~~ wherein for the fixing of Further the component may be fixed on the carrier~~[[,]]~~ so that the hole of said the supporting sleeve is penetrated by a fixing pin, particularly a screw, that is insertable into the carrier.

On page 2, after line 2, and before line 3, insert the heading

Summary Of The Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, lines 7-11 with the following amended paragraph:

The object of the invention is achieved in that the supporting sleeve is formed in cross section as a closed ring and ~~comprises~~ includes a plurality of axially extending recesses extending over the entire length of the supporting sleeve, wherein therefore, when radial pressure is applied to the supporting sleeve, the walls of the recesses come closer to each other as the bases of the recesses bend in.

On page 5, after line 15, and before line 16, insert the heading

Brief Description Of The Drawings

On page 6, after line 15, and before line 16, insert the heading

Detailed Description Of The Drawings

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, lines 17-22, with the following amended paragraph:

Fig. 1a shows the supporting sleeve 1A in a perspective view, the supporting sleeve 1 in this case comprising the four recesses 2, 3, 4 and 5. Said recesses are also apparent from the top view of the end face of the supporting sleeve 1A in Fig. 1b. The recesses are each formed by the two walls 6 and 7 as well as by the base 8. Extending between the recesses 2 to 5 are the bulges 9, 10, 11 and 12, which connect them.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, lines 24-31, and continuing onto page 7, lines 1-6, with the following amended paragraph:

This design of the supporting sleeve 1A allows the supporting sleeve 1A to be radially compressed as a result of the flexibility of the material of the supporting sleeve and makes it possible for the supporting sleeve to be introduced into a penetration in a component, the diameter of said penetration being smaller than the diameter of the supporting sleeve shown in its relaxed position in Fig. 1 a and

b. When the supporting sleeve 1A is radially compressed, there results primarily a bending-in of the bases 8, the walls 6 and 7 coming closer to each other. This is accomplished in uniform manner owing to the uniform construction of the supporting sleeve in respect of all four recesses 2 to 5, this making it possible to achieve a considerable elasticity of the supporting sleeve 1A. With regard to the introduction of the supporting sleeve 1A and its function in a component, reference is made to the below-given explanatory remarks in relation to Fig. 5. It can be seen from Fig. 5 that the therein shown supporting sleeve 1A accepts a screw 13 in its hole 41.